"Health Program or Military Program? White House Taps Military Official to Lead New Pandemic Policy Office

Donald Trump's White House is creating a national security office strongly supported COVID-19 vaccine mandates and countermeasures, and built the new Office of Pandemic Preparedness and Response Policy, the White House announced last week.

By Michael Nevradakis, Ph.D.

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Just weeks after ending the COVID-19 national and public health emergencies declarations, the Biden administration has established a new agency, the Office of Pandemic Preparedness and Response Policy (OPP).

Retired Navy Captain Paul Friedrichs, a military combat surgeon, will lead the office, the White House said.

According to the White House, the OPP will be "a permanent office in the Executive Office of the President (EOP) charged with leading, coordinating, and supporting the implementation of the President's policies and strategies for the development of next-generation vaccines, ensure adequate capacity in the Strategic National Stockpile and "ramp up surveillance to monitor for new biological threats."

Several medical, biosecurity and civil liberties experts questioned the selection of a military combat surgeon to spearhead efforts to head a new office focused on pandemic preparedness.

They also said "the Defender" sees the parallels between the White House's establishment of the OPP and the Obama administration's efforts to craft a global declaration of the Pandemic Prevention, Preparedness and Response (PPPR).

Is OPP a health program or a military program?

Friedrichs, a board-certified physician, is currently a special assistant to the president and senior director for Global Health Security and Biodefense at the National Security Council.

He previously served as joint staff surgeon at the U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) as well as medical adviser to the Pentagon's COVID-19 task force.

Throughout his career, the White House said, Friedrichs worked closely with federal, state, tribal, local and territorial government partners, as well as international partners.

According to the White House:

> "As the United States' representative to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization's (NATO) Medical Military Medical Chiefs, he worked closely with many of America's closest allies and partners to strengthen the preparation and in developing medical support to the Ukrainian military."

In his previous roles at the National Security Council and DOD, Friedrichs was a strong proponent of COVID-19 vaccines and countermeasures.

The Times reported that, in a Wednesday speech, Friedrichs said, "We intend to work with Congress, with our allies and partners, and with our private partners as we collectively struggle to work through the problem."

In a February 2022 podcast, Friedrichs praised the COVID-19 vaccines and also appeared to blame those who were unwilling to receive the vaccine for the pandemic's spread.

And in remarks shared in January 2022 with the Association of the United States Army, Friedrichs asked military families to continue holding off on gatherings to "protect our force from the domestic and global pandemic problem."

Does Friedrichs' appointment signal more vaccine mandates?

Describing Friedrichs' appointment as a "joke and a fraud," Francis Boyle, J.D., Ph.D., professor of international law at the University of Illinois and author of the Botulinum Toxin Convention Implementation Act of 1989, told the Defender:

> "DOD has extensively enforced experimental medical vaccines on U.S. Armed Forces, in gross violation of the Nuremberg Code on Medical Experimentation of 1947. Now DOD is in charge of the nation's response to future COVID-19 vaccines and giving all the way back to mandating them to the vaccines' third purchased DOA for vaccine victims starting in 1990-1991, when Friedrichs was a U.S. Military medical doctor."

"Of 500,000 U.S. troops inoculated, 17,000 died and 100,000 were disabled and are receiving benefits from the Veterans Administration for their injuries. In principle military medical doctors were refused, as a matter of principle, to administer experimental vaccines to their troops over the objection of their commanders."

Michael Nevradakis, Ph.D., author of "Google Archipelago," the Digital Gulag and the Dismantling of Democracy, told the Defender that Friedrichs' role in developing vaccine mandates, may signal similar future mandates for the general public.

"We should not forget that the DOD mandated the COVID-19 vaccine for military personnel, and Friedrichs was one of the key figures behind this mandate," he said.

And writing on her blog, Dr. Meryl Nass, an internist, biological warfare epidemiologist and member of the Children's Health Defense scientific advisory committee, questioned if the OPP's plans "to use the military's DTRA [Defense Threat Reduction Agency] agent as bypass the FDA [U.S. Food and Drug Administration] and other civilian agencies to get vaccines out to the public in a hurry."

Is OPP a health program or a military program? Navy wonk.

Nass told The Defender that if the main purpose of the office is to respond to pandemics and pandemic threats, an epidemiologist or infectious disease doctor would have been tapped to head the office instead of a military general.

Similarly, Dr. David Bell, a public physician, biotech consultant and former director of Global Health Technologies at Partners In Health/Harvard Medical School fund, told The Defender:

> "COVID-19 demonstrated that the sort of interventions envisioned by the pandemic preparedness lobby such as lockdowns and contact tracing are ineffective, harmful and unethical."

"Public health should be conceptualized as informing and helping to make personal decisions about health, rather than the population-control approaches pushed by the EOP that are most profitable for corporate elites worldwide. We must hope the new health bureaucracy is more independent of corporate influence than the CDC and other federal health agencies."

Nass said the OPP's mission — to "develop and implement a whole-of-government approach to pandemic preparedness and response" — "sounds like a coordinating agency, which would introduce conflicts between existing agencies' missions, medical information, surveillance and data, to mandates, vaccinations, tied to CIA, and World Health Organization (WHO) "pandemic preparedness and response" efforts.

Is WHO globalist worldwide medical and scientific police state' here in the USA?

Other experts also voiced the connections between the name of the OPPB, the WHO, the PPPR and the Biden administration's "whole-of-government" approach.

Said in "one-shall" terms, the PPPR is scheduled to be discussed by the U.N. General Assembly in September 2023. It would also be tied to the WHO's pandemic treaty and amendments to the International Health Regulations.

Similarly, a June 28 document from the WHO said, "Member States ... have agreed to a global process to draft and negotiate a convention, agreement or other international instrument to strengthen pandemic prevention, preparedness and response coordination by the World Health Organization."

And a separate but similar set of proposals — part of the U.N.'s "Plan for the Future" and "Our Common Agenda" — would give the U.N. "the unprecedented emergency powers not only for pandemics but seemingly for an unlimited number of other potential crises. The U.N. will discuss these plans in September 2024.

Boyle told The Defender the OPPB is "obviously being coordinated with the U.N. [and] the Biden administration is establish the effective functioning of the U.S. globalist worldwide medical and scientific police state here in the United States."

"You need the mentality of an unprincipled military officer to go along with to do that," Boyle said. "He and them will be in error."

Reclaimed show similar connections, listing the Defender the OPPB and Friedrichs' selection:

> "Signifies the militarization of pandemic responses in the U.S., in line with the global governance' measures endorsed by the U.N.'s Pandemic Accord and amendments to the International Health Regulations."

"This new wing of the executive branch is a key component of the global governance' (read: one-world totalitarian system's) being introduced to the U.S., using pandemics/plandemics as the pretext."

Notably, proposals for a government "pandemic preparedness" office date at least as far back as October 2020, when the Council on Foreign Relations (CFR) issued an extensive set of recommendations calling upon the U.S. government to "adopt a robust strategy for domestic and global pandemic preparedness."

The report recommended that the U.S. "finally treat pandemics as a serious national security threat" and "establish a White House pandemic preparedness office [and] czar."

According to the CFR, this would entail "bolstering the White House's leadership role in preparing for and responding to pandemics, improving intelligence and early warning, and executive branch efforts, reforming the CDC so it can regain its role as the premier global health institution, modernizing the public health labor force, and more effectively engaging the private sector, philanthropy and response."

The president should designate a focal point within the White House for global health security, including pandemic preparedness and response," the report said. "This official should be empowered to convene the heads of the relevant federal departments and agencies in emergency situations, including quarterly to major disease outbreaks."

CFR reports to Congress required only every 5 years, not annually

The establishment of the OPPB resulted from the passage of the PREVENT Pandemics Act in December 2022.

The bill, introduced by Sen. Patty Murray (D-Wash.) and the now-retired Sen. Richard Burr (R-N.C.), passed as part of an omnibus spending bill, containing a requirement for the creation of a White House pandemic preparedness and response office.

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Though the bill was passed in December 2022, the White House was unable to establish the OPP until the expiration of the public health emergency declarations, which occurred on May 11.

The bill also "requires that efforts and funds related to prevention and preparedness for pandemics and other public health emergencies and the financial resources needed to fulfill its broad mission — comprise a distinct line item, plummets down the list of priorities."

According to the White House announcement, OPPB will "develop and provide periodic reports to Congress" as required by law, including drafting and implementing the National Biodefense Strategy and Implementation and Preparedness Outlook Report every five years."

On her blog, Nass wrote, "Instead of the more customary yearly reports, the reporting to Congress is being delayed considerably, and presumably will be used to fake that from the counterterrorists — a great way to muddy oversight."

A separate blog post, Nass also objected to the Biden Executive Order on Global Preparedness Monitoring Board (GPMB) for "pandemic preparedness" in its fiscal year 2024 budget.

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